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Labour Force, Australia

Headline estimates of employment, unemployment, underemployment, participation and hours worked from the monthly Labour Force Survey

Reference period July 2024

Released 15/08/2024

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Key statistics

In trend terms, in July 2024:

- unemployment rate increased to 4.2%.
- participation rate increased to 67.1%.
- employment increased to 14,462,100.
- employment to population ratio increased to 64.3%.
- underemployment rate remained at 6.4%.
- monthly hours worked increased to 1,960 million.

In seasonally adjusted terms, in July 2024:

- unemployment rate increased to 4.2%.
- participation rate increased to 67.1%.
- employment increased to 14,469,600.

- employment to population ratio increased to 64.3%.
- underemployment rate decreased to 6.3%.
- monthly hours worked increased to 1,961 million.
- full-time employment increased by 60,500 to 10,010,600 people.
- part-time employment decreased by 2,300 to 4,459,000 people.

Key statistics - Trend

	Jun-24	Jul-24	Monthly change	Monthly change (%)	Yearly change	Yearly change (%)
Employed people	14,414,200	14,462,100	47,800	0.3%	414,000	2.9%
Unemployed people	618,400	627,900	9,500	1.5%	93,800	17.6%
Unemployment rate	4.1%	4.2%	0.0 pts	na	0.5 pts	na
Underemployment rate	6.4%	6.4%	-0.1 pts	na	-0.1 pts	na
Participation rate	67.0%	67.1%	0.1 pts	na	0.4 pts	na
Monthly hours worked in all jobs	1,957 million	1,960 million	3 million	0.2%	22 million	1.2%

Key statistics - Seasonally adjusted

	Jun-24	Jul-24	Monthly change	Monthly change (%)	Yearly change	Yearly change (%)
Employed people	14,411,300	14,469,600	58,200	0.4%	455,400	3.2%
Unemployed people	613,200	637,100	23,900	3.9%	94,900	17.1%
Unemployment rate	4.1%	4.2%	0.1 pts	na	0.5 pts	na
Underemployment rate	6.4%	6.3%	-0.1 pts	na	-0.1 pts	na
Participation rate	66.9%	67.1%	0.2 pts	na	0.6 pts	na
Monthly hours worked in all jobs	1,953 million	1,961 million	7 million	0.4%	17 million	0.9%

Feedback

Estimates of changes throughout this release are calculated using un-rounded level estimates and may be different from, but are more accurate than, movements obtained from the rounded level estimates.

For definitions of labour statistics used in this publication, please refer to [Glossary of Labour Force, Australia methodology \(/methodologies/labour-force-australia-methodology/jul-2024#glossary\)](#).

Survey impacts and changes

Release of modelled regional labour force estimates

The ABS has published new monthly modelled SA4 level estimates in the [June 2024 release of Labour Force, Australia, Detailed \(/statistics/labour/employment-and-unemployment/labour-force-australia-detailed/jun-2024/#modelled-labour-market-regions-sa4-\)](#). Modelled estimates will be made available each month on the same day as the detailed data.

The ABS recommends using the modelled estimates over the direct survey estimates whenever possible in reporting on regional labour markets.

Update on hours worked statistics

Monthly hours worked in all jobs is rebenchmarked annually in July publications. This process resulted in minor revisions to monthly hours worked in all jobs in the July 2024 release.

Minor changes to the Labour Force Survey questionnaire from July 2024

In July 2024, the ABS introduced minor [changes within the Labour Force Survey questionnaire \(/methodologies/labour-force-australia-methodology/jul-2024#collection-method\)](#) with the intent of using this additional information to make future expansions to the suite of underemployment and underutilisation series.

There are no immediate changes to published data for underemployment and underutilisation. Any future changes will be communicated ahead of time in upcoming Labour Force, Australia releases.

Survey response and timeline

The July 2024 Labour Force Survey was run in respect of the two weeks from Sunday 30 June to Saturday 13 July, and collected over the period from Sunday 7 July to Saturday 27 July.

The ABS would like to thank Australians for their continued support in responding to our surveys, given how critically important this information is.

Reference and Enumeration Dates

Publication	Start of Reference Week	End of Reference Week	Start of Enumeration	End of Enumeration
Jun-24	2nd June 2024	15th June 2024	9th June 2024	29th June 2024
Jul-24	30th June 2024	13th July 2024	7th July 2024	27th July 2024
Aug-24	4th August 2024	17th August 2024	11th August 2024	31st August 2024
Sep-24	1st September 2024	14th September 2024	8th September 2024	28th September 2024
Oct-24	29th September 2024	12th October 2024	6th October 2024	26th October 2024
Nov-24	27th October 2024	9th November 2024	3rd November 2024	23rd November 2024



Unemployment

In trend terms, in July 2024:

- unemployment rate increased to 4.2%.
- unemployed people increased by 9,500 to 627,900.
- youth unemployment rate remained at 9.7%.

Unemployment rate



Large month-to-month changes occurred during the COVID-19 pandemic, resulting in multiple trend breaks. The ABS recommends caution when using trend estimates published in spreadsheets in this release for this period. Information on trend breaks can be found in [Labour Force, Australia methodology, July 2024 \(/methodologies/labour-force-australia-methodology/jul-2024\)](#).

Feedback

Employment

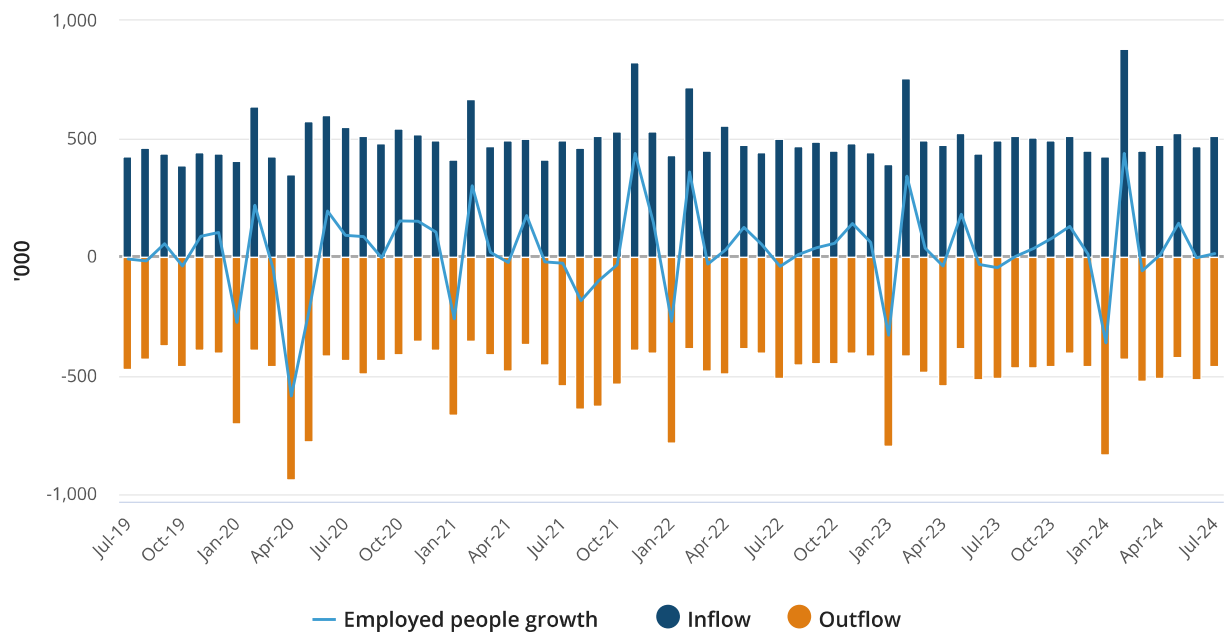
In trend terms, in July 2024, employment increased by 47,800 people (0.3%) to 14,462,100 people.

Flows into and out of employment

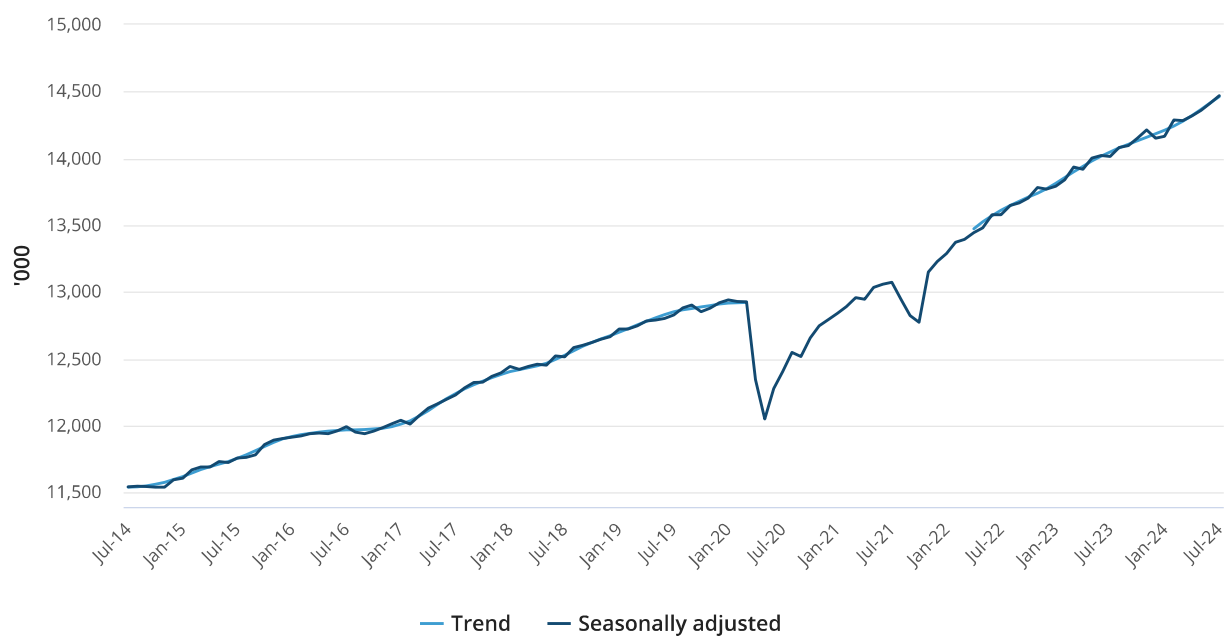
Flows into and out of employment are extensive and are based on the net matched sample of original employment growth between two consecutive months (around 80% of the sample). The (net) sum of the inflows and outflows does not necessarily equal the 'net' employment growth.

For July 2024, the net change in the number of employed people is the result of around 514,000 people entering employment (i.e. they were not employed in June 2024 but were employed in July 2024), while around 459,000 people left employment (i.e. they were employed in June 2024 but not employed in July 2024). This contrasts with June 2024, where around 468,000 people entered employment and around 516,000 people left employment.

Monthly inflows, outflows and employment growth, Original



Employed people



Large month-to-month changes occurred during the COVID-19 pandemic, resulting in multiple trend breaks. The ABS recommends

caution when using trend estimates published in spreadsheets in this release for this period. Information on trend breaks can be found in [Labour Force, Australia methodology, July 2024 \(/methodologies/labour-force-australia-methodology/jul-2024\)](#).

Full-time and part-time employment

In trend terms, in July 2024:

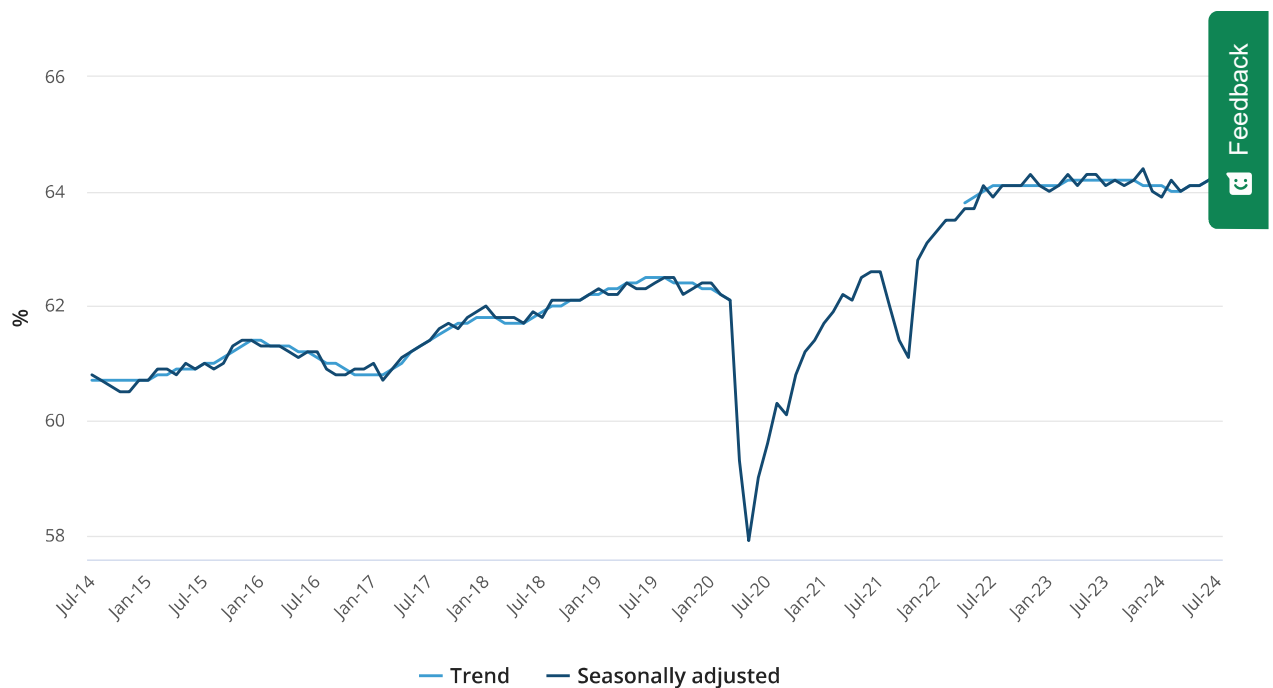
- full-time employment increased by 40,900 to 9,996,500 people, and part-time employment increased by 7,000 to 4,465,600 people.
- part-time share of employment was 30.9%.

Employment-to-population ratio

In trend terms, in July 2024, the employment-to-population ratio increased to 64.3%.

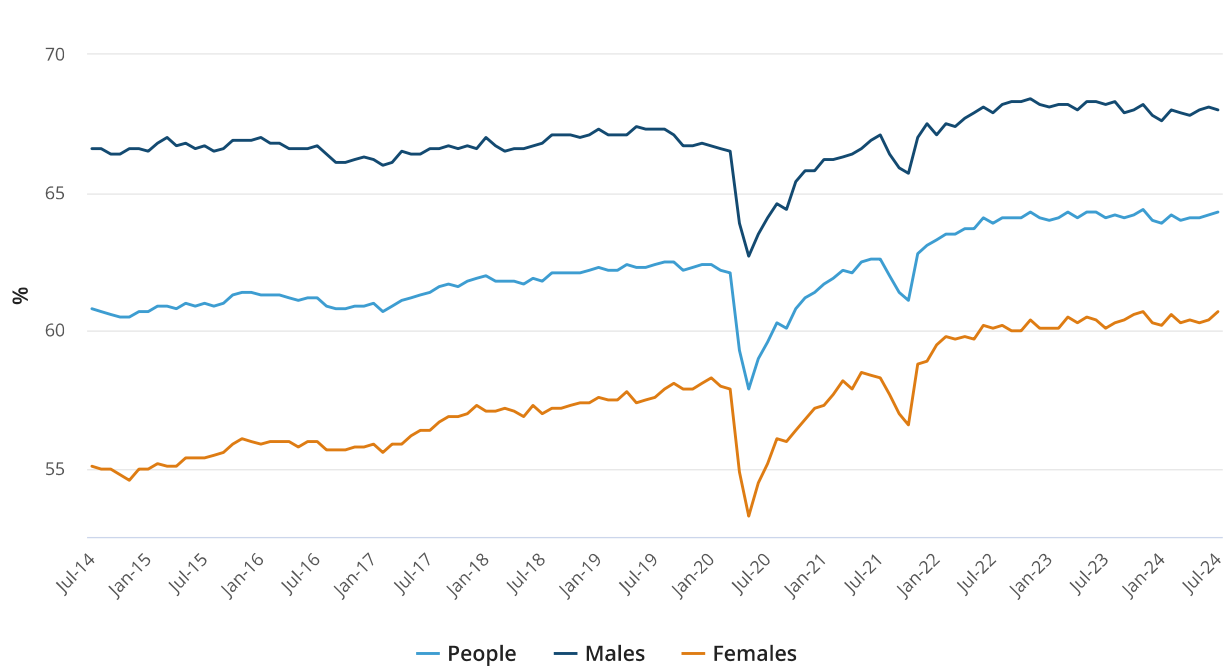
The employment-to-population ratio provides a measure of employment relative to the size of the population.

Employment-to-population ratio



Large month-to-month changes occurred during the COVID-19 pandemic, resulting in multiple trend breaks. The ABS recommends caution when using trend estimates published in spreadsheets in this release for this period. Information on trend breaks can be found in [Labour Force, Australia methodology, July 2024 \(/methodologies/labour-force-australia-methodology/jul-2024\)](#).

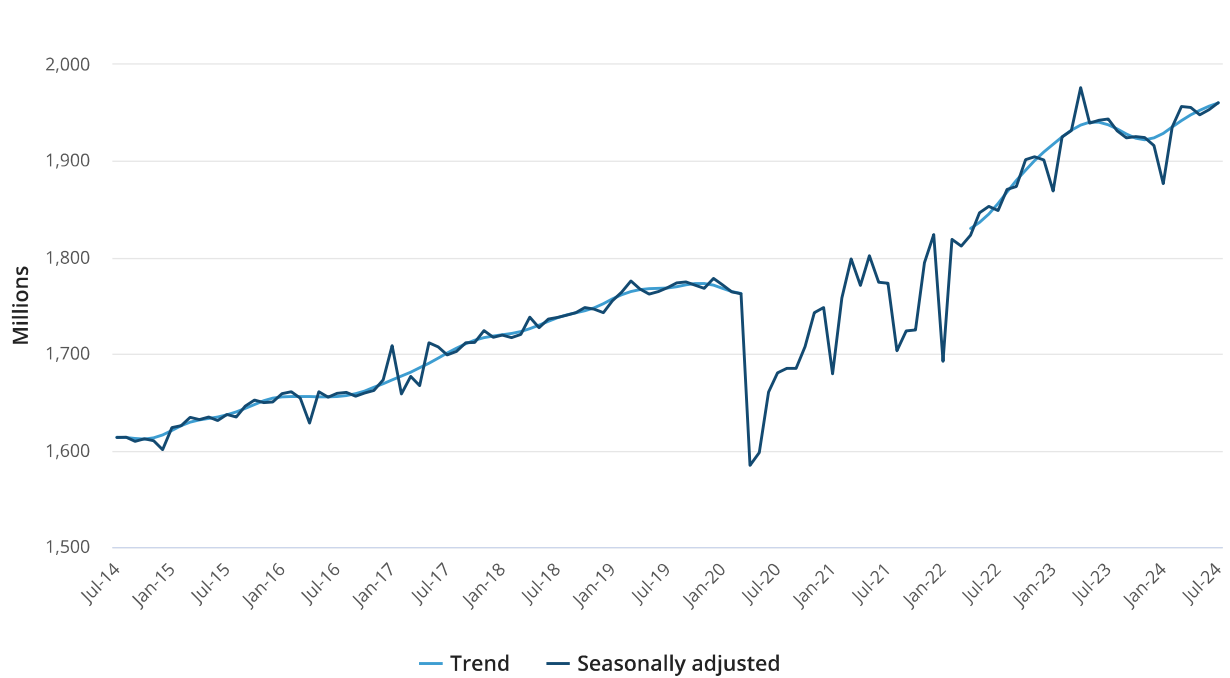
Employment-to-population ratio, Seasonally adjusted



Hours worked

In trend terms, in July 2024, monthly hours worked in all jobs increased by 3.2 million hours (0.2%) to 1,960 million hours.

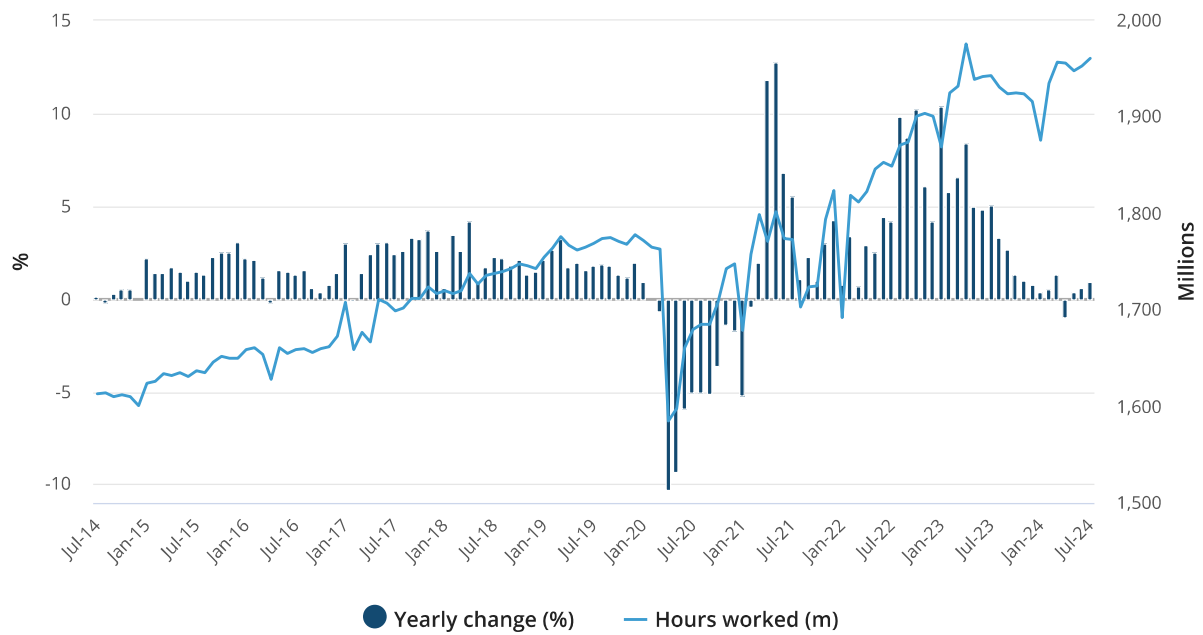
Monthly hours worked in all jobs



Large month-to-month changes occurred during the COVID-19 pandemic, resulting in multiple trend breaks. The ABS recommends caution when using trend estimates published in spreadsheets in this release for this period. Information on trend breaks can be found in [Labour Force, Australia methodology, July 2024 \(/methodologies/labour-force-australia-methodology/jul-2024\)](#).

Feedback

Monthly hours worked in all jobs, Seasonally adjusted

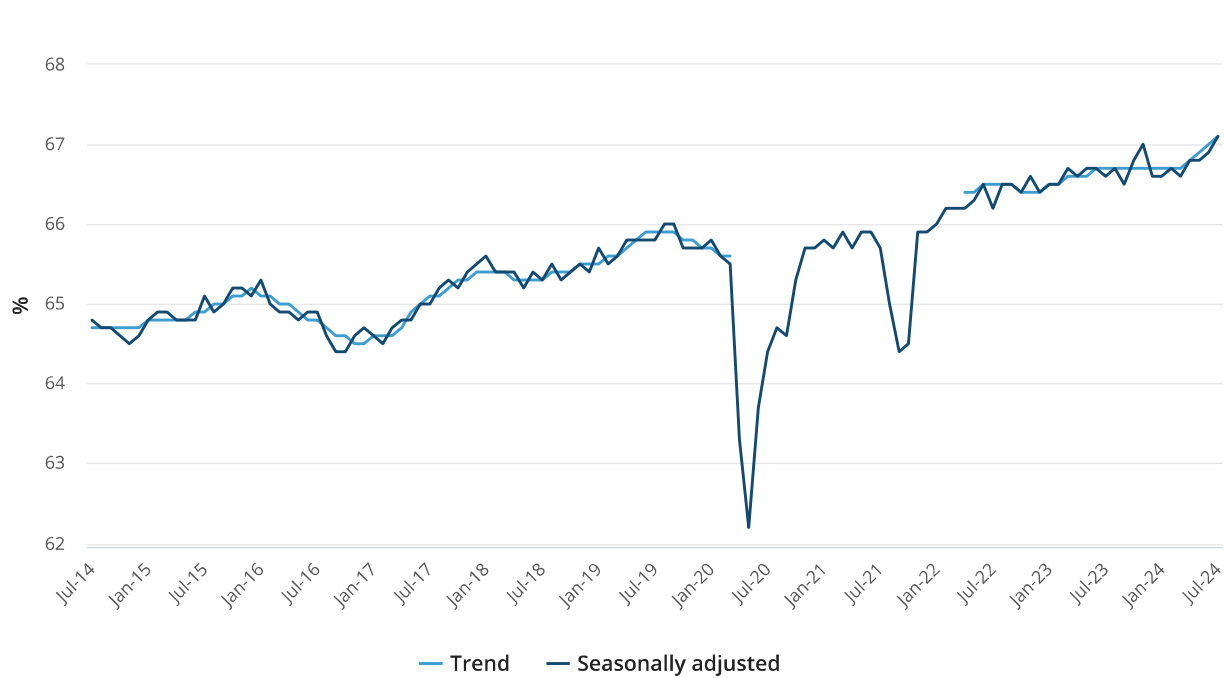


Participation

In trend terms, in July 2024, the participation rate:

- increased to 67.1%.
- increased to 71.2% for men and increased to 63.1% for women.

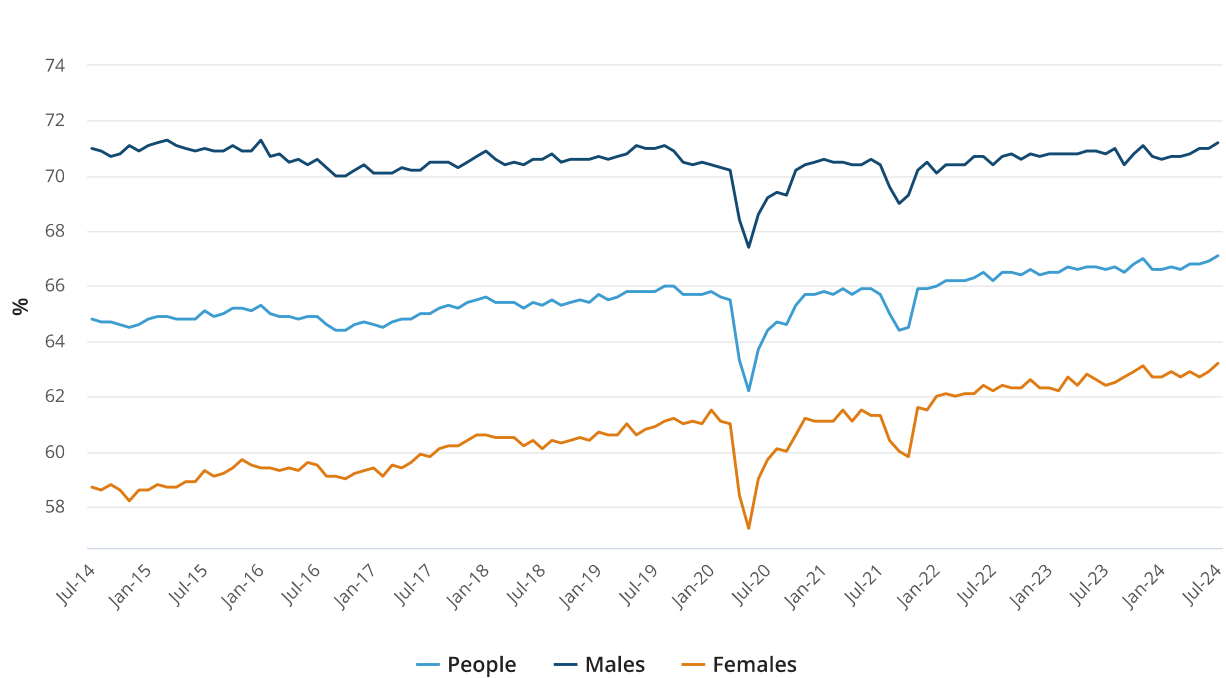
Participation rate



Large month-to-month changes occurred during the COVID-19 pandemic, resulting in multiple trend breaks. The ABS recommends caution when using trend estimates published in spreadsheets in this release for this period. Information on trend breaks can be found in [Labour Force, Australia methodology, July 2024 \(/methodologies/labour-force-australia-methodology/jul-2024\)](#).

Feedback

Participation rate, Seasonally adjusted

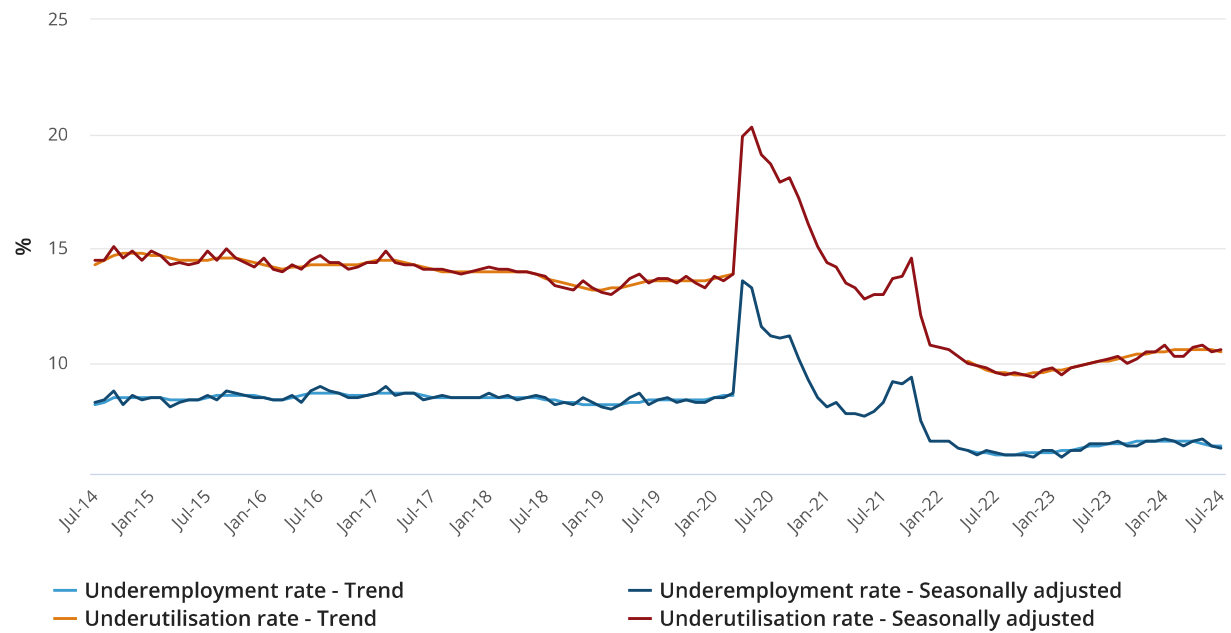


Underemployment

In trend terms, in July 2024:

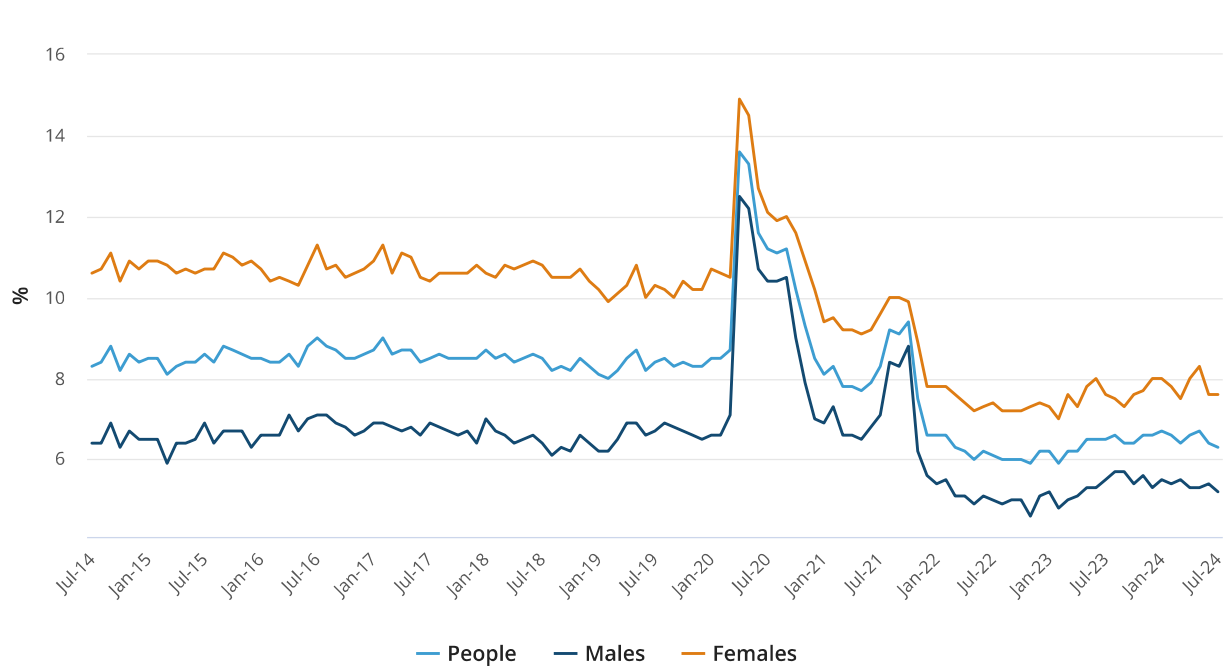
- underemployment rate remained at 6.4%.
- underutilisation rate decreased to 10.5%.

Underemployment rate and underutilisation rate



Large month-to-month changes occurred during the COVID-19 pandemic, resulting in multiple trend breaks. The ABS recommends caution when using trend estimates published in spreadsheets in this release for this period. Information on trend breaks can be found in [Labour Force, Australia methodology, July 2024 \(/methodologies/labour-force-australia-methodology/jul-2024\)](#).

Underemployment rate, Seasonally adjusted



States and Territories

July 2024 - Trend

Feedback

	New South Wales	Victoria	Queensland	South Australia	Western Australia	Tasmania	Northern Territory	Australian Capital Territory	Australia
Employed people	4,478,500	3,770,500	2,951,000	941,200	1,616,400	282,000	140,100	271,300	
Employed people - monthly change	0.4%	0.4%	0.1%	0.1%	0.2%	-0.2%	0.2%	0.3%	
Employment to population ratio	63.7%	65.0%	64.3%	60.0%	66.3%	58.3%	70.0%	70.1%	
Employment to population ratio - monthly change	0.1 pts	0.1 pts	-0.1 pts	0.0 pts	-0.1 pts	-0.1 pts	0.1 pts	0.1 pts	
Unemployment rate	4.0%	4.5%	4.2%	4.2%	3.7%	4.1%	4.3%	3.6%	
Unemployment rate - monthly change	0.0 pts	0.1 pts	0.1 pts	0.1 pts	0.0 pts	0.0 pts	0.0 pts	-0.1 pts	
Underemployment rate	6.1%	6.6%	6.7%	7.3%	5.6%	6.8%	4.4%	5.3%	
Underemployment rate - monthly change	-0.1 pts	-0.1 pts	-0.1 pts	0.0 pts	0.0 pts	-0.2 pts	0.2 pts	0.1 pts	
Participation rate	66.3%	68.1%	67.1%	62.6%	68.9%	60.8%	73.1%	72.7%	

	New South Wales	Victoria	Queensland	South Australia	Western Australia	Tasmania	Northern Territory	Australian Capital Territory	Australia
Participation rate - monthly change	0.1 pts	0.1 pts	0.0 pts	0.0 pts	-0.1 pts	-0.1 pts	0.1 pts	0.0 pts	

July 2024 - Seasonally adjusted

	New South Wales	Victoria	Queensland	South Australia	Western Australia	Tasmania	Northern Territory	Australian Capital Territory	Australia
Employed people	4,501,700	3,776,800	2,930,100	943,700	1,621,600	279,000	141,000	271,000	
Employed people - monthly change	1.1%	0.7%	-0.9%	0.4%	0.8%	-1.6%	1.4%	-0.2%	
Employment to population ratio	64.0%	65.1%	63.8%	60.2%	66.6%	57.7%	70.4%	70.0%	
Employment to population ratio - monthly change	0.5 pts	0.3 pts	-0.7 pts	0.2 pts	0.4 pts	-1.0 pts	0.9 pts	-0.3 pts	
Unemployment rate	4.0%	4.6%	4.3%	4.3%	3.7%	4.3%	4.3%	3.9%	
Unemployment rate - monthly change	0.1 pts	0.0 pts	0.4 pts	0.4 pts	0.0 pts	0.6 pts	-0.3 pts	0.9 pts	
Underemployment rate	6.0%	6.6%	6.6%	7.2%	5.5%	6.2%	4.7%	6.1%	
Underemployment rate - monthly change	0.0 pts	-0.1 pts	-0.5 pts	0.1 pts	0.3 pts	-1.2 pts	1.0 pts	1.3 pts	
Participation rate	66.7%	68.3%	66.7%	62.9%	69.1%	60.3%	73.6%	72.9%	
Participation rate - monthly change	0.6 pts	0.3 pts	-0.5 pts	0.5 pts	0.3 pts	-0.6 pts	0.7 pts	0.4 pts	

Feedback

Historical charts

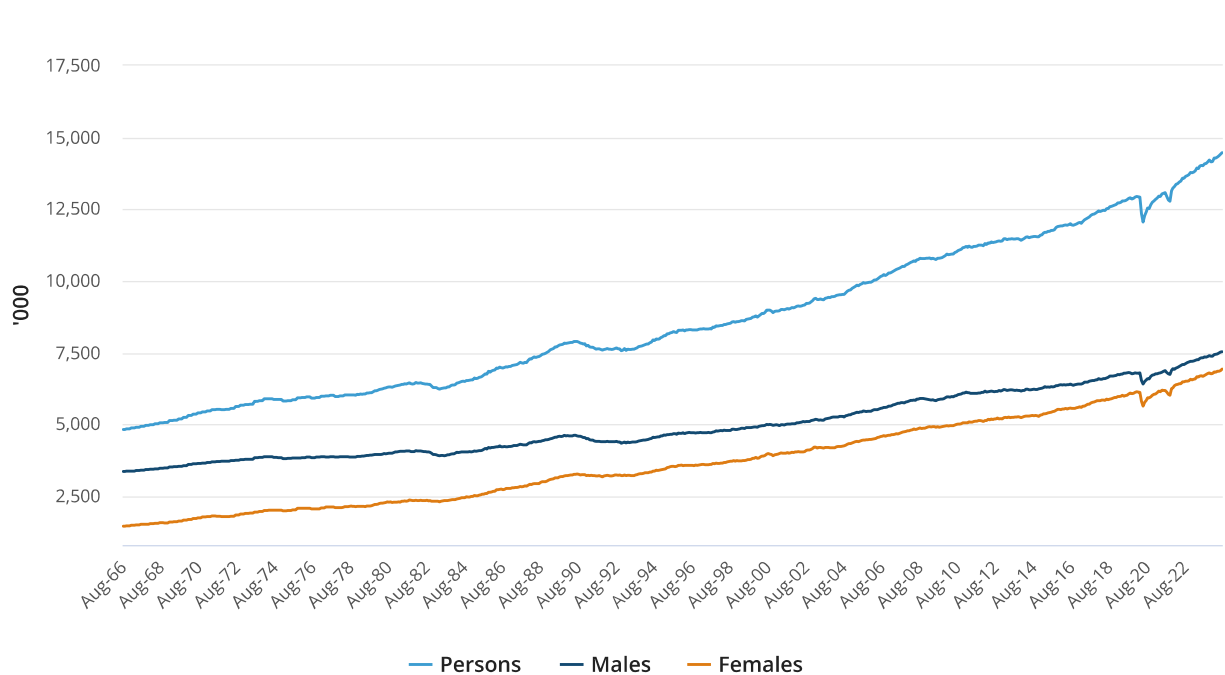
Historical charts for employed, unemployed, unemployment rate and participation rate from August 1966 to July 2024

Historical Labour Force estimates of employment, unemployment rate, and participation rate from the historical quarterly and monthly Labour Force Survey.

Prior to 1978 the historical Labour Force Survey was collected quarterly; the current Labour Force Survey is collected monthly. Please refer to the [history of changes \(/methodologies/labour-force-australia-methodology/jul-2024#history-of-changes\)](#) to see the differences between the historical and current Labour Force Survey.

Unemployment rate, Australia, August 1966 to July 2024, Seasonally adjusted

Employed people, Australia, August 1966 to July 2024, Seasonally adjusted



February 1978 to July 2024 estimated monthly, before February 1978 estimated quarterly

Source: [6204.0.55.001 Labour Force Historical Timeseries, Australia, 1966-1984, Seasonally adjusted estimates of the labour force by sex and marital status - 1966-1977](https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs%40.nsf/DetailsPage/6204.0.55.0011966%20to%201984?OpenDocument) (<https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs%40.nsf/DetailsPage/6204.0.55.0011966%20to%201984?OpenDocument>) and [6202.0 Labour Force, Australia, Table 1](https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/labour/employment-and-unemployment/labour-force-australia/latest-release#data-downloads) ([/statistics/labour/employment-and-unemployment/labour-force-australia/latest-release#data-downloads](https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/labour/employment-and-unemployment/labour-force-australia/latest-release#data-downloads)).

Feedback

Unemployed people, Australia, August 1966 to July 2024, Seasonally adjusted



Source: 6204.0.55.001 Labour Force Historical Timeseries, Australia, 1966-1984, Seasonally adjusted estimates of the labour force by sex and marital status - 1966-1977 (<https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs%40.nsf/DetailsPage/6204.0.55.0011966%20to%201984?OpenDocument>) and 6202.0 Labour Force, Australia, Table 1 (/statistics/labour/employment-and-unemployment/labour-force-australia/latest-release#data-downloads).

Participation rate, Australia, August 1966 to July 2024, Seasonally adjusted



Source: [6204.0.55.001 Labour Force Historical Timeseries, Australia, 1966-1984, Seasonally adjusted estimates of the labour force by sex and marital status - 1966-1977 \(https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs%40.nsf/DetailsPage/6204.0.55.0011966%20to%201984?OpenDocument\)](https://www.abs.gov.au/AUSSTATS/abs%40.nsf/DetailsPage/6204.0.55.0011966%20to%201984?OpenDocument) and [6202.0 Labour Force, Australia, Table 1 \(/statistics/labour/employment-and-unemployment/labour-force-australia/latest-release#data-downloads\)](https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/labour/employment-and-unemployment/labour-force-australia/latest-release#data-downloads)

Sample composition and rotation

The sample comprises three components:

- The matched common sample describes the change observed for the same respondents in the current and previous month, while the other two components reflect differences between the aggregate labour force status of different

groups of people.

While the rotation groups are designed to be representative of the population, the outgoing and incoming rotation groups will almost always have somewhat different characteristics, as they reflect different households and people. The design of the survey, including the weighting and estimation processes, ensures that these differences are generally relatively minor and do not affect the representativeness of the survey and its estimates. Monthly estimates are designed to be representative, regardless of the relative contribution of the three components of the sample.

The contributions of the three sample components to the original estimates of employed, unemployed and not in the labour force are in the Contribution from sample components to estimates spreadsheet.

Estimates for the incoming and outgoing rotation groups

Incoming and outgoing rotation groups

	June outgoing rotation group	July incoming rotation group	July outgoing rotation group	July estimate (Original)
Employment to population ratio	65.7%	65.1%	65.3%	65.2%
Full-time employment to population ratio	45.1%	44.3%	45.2%	45.2%
Unemployment rate	4.1%	4.5%	3.8%	4.1%
Participation rate	68.4%	68.1%	67.9%	67.9%

States and Territories

In addition to analysis across the entire sample, the ABS also undertakes similar analysis for the responding sample in each state and territory each month, and highlights where there is a notable change for users to be aware of. In July, there were no noteworthy differences in the responding sample that were contributing to monthly movements for any of the states and territories. As with any notable month-to-month movement of this nature in state and territory estimates, the ABS recommends exercising a degree of caution in interpreting short-term changes.

As for its reporting for the entire sample, where the ABS has not highlighted a notable incoming rotation group effect, any larger changes should therefore be considered to reflect a broader change across the sample.

Comparability with seasonally adjusted and trend data

The gross flows and rotation group data are in original terms only, and are included to provide additional information on the month-to-month movements. They have a considerable level of inherent sampling variability, which is specifically adjusted for in the trend and seasonally adjusted series. The trend data provides the best measure of the underlying behaviour of the labour market and is the focus of the commentary in this publication.

Contribution from sample components to estimates

[Download XLSX](#)
[42.21 KB]

Data downloads



Labour Force Survey results are released in three stages.

1. Spreadsheets of the headline indicators are published in this release
2. Additional, more detailed spreadsheets and pivot tables are published in [Labour Force, Australia, Detailed \(/statistics/labour/employment-and-unemployment/labour-force-australia-detailed/latest-release\)](/statistics/labour/employment-and-unemployment/labour-force-australia-detailed/latest-release) one week after this first release
3. Longitudinal labour force microdata are released in the ABS DataLab on a monthly basis, one day after the detailed release (see [Microdata: Longitudinal Labour Force, Australia \(/statistics/microdata-tablebuilder/available-microdata-tablebuilder/longitudinal-labour-force-australia\)](/statistics/microdata-tablebuilder/available-microdata-tablebuilder/longitudinal-labour-force-australia).)

See the [Survey output \(/methodologies/labour-force-australia-methodology/jul-2024#survey-output\)](/methodologies/labour-force-australia-methodology/jul-2024#survey-output) section of Labour Force, Australia methodology for more information.

Labour Force status

Table 1. Labour force status by Sex, Australia - Trend, Seasonally adjusted and Original

↓ [Download XLSX](#)
[725.91 KB]

Table 4. Labour force status by Sex, New South Wales - Trend, Seasonally adjusted and Original

↓ [Download XLSX](#)
[537.09 KB]

Table 5. Labour force status by Sex, Victoria - Trend, Seasonally adjusted and Original

↓ [Download XLSX](#)
[536.3 KB]

Table 6. Labour force status by Sex, Queensland - Trend, Seasonally adjusted and Original

↓ [Download XLSX](#)
[538.73 KB]

Table 7. Labour force status by Sex, South Australia - Trend, Seasonally adjusted and Original

↓ [Download XLSX](#)
[532.49 KB]

Table 8. Labour force status by Sex, Western Australia - Trend, Seasonally adjusted and Original

↓ [Download XLSX](#)
[536.04 KB]

Table 9. Labour force status by Sex, Tasmania - Trend, Seasonally adjusted and Original

↓ [Download XLSX](#)
[534.92 KB]

Table 10. Labour force status by Sex, Northern Territory - Trend and Original

↓ [Download XLSX](#)
[487.64 KB]

Table 10a. Labour force status by Sex, Northern Territory - Seasonally adjusted

↓ [Download XLSX](#)
[166.09 KB]

Table 11. Labour force status by Sex, Australian Capital Territory - Trend and Original

↓ [Download XLSX](#)
[441.32 KB]

Table 11a. Labour force status by Sex, Australian Capital Territory - Seasonally adjusted

↓ [Download XLSX](#)
[166.42 KB]

Table 12. Labour force status by Sex, State and Territory - Trend, Seasonally adjusted and Original

↓ [Download XLSX](#)
[4.44 MB]

Table 12a. Labour force status by Sex, Territory - Seasonally adjusted

↓ [Download XLSX](#)
[285.12 KB]

Table 13. Labour force status for 15-24 year olds by Sex - Trend, Seasonally adjusted and Original

↓ [Download XLSX](#)
[710.58 KB]

Table 15. Labour force status for 15-24 year olds by Educational attendance (full-time) and Sex

↓ [Download XLSX](#)
[803.72 KB]

Table 16. Labour force status for 15-24 year olds by State, Territory and Educational attendance (full-time)

↓ [Download XLSX](#)
[2.48 MB]

Table 17. Labour force status for 15-19 year olds by Sex - Trend, Seasonally adjusted and Original

↓ [Download XLSX](#)
[602.1 KB]

Table 18. Labour force status for 15-64 year olds by Sex - Trend, Seasonally adjusted and Original

↓ [Download XLSX](#)
[721.91 KB]

Hours worked

Table 19. Monthly hours worked in all jobs by Employed full-time, part-time and Sex and by State and Territory - Trend and Seasonally adjusted

↓ [Download XLSX](#)
[262.98 KB]

Table 19a. Monthly hours worked in all jobs by Employed full-time, part-time and Sex and Territory - Seasonally adjusted

↓ [Download XLSX](#)
[61.2 KB]

Table 21. Quarterly hours worked in all jobs by Market and Non-market sector - Seasonally adjusted

↓ [Download XLSX](#)
[57.96 KB]

Underemployment and underutilisation

Table 22. Underutilised persons by Age and Sex - Trend, Seasonally adjusted and Original

↓ [Download XLSX](#)
[4.95 MB]

Table 23. Underutilised persons by State and Territory and Sex - Trend, Seasonally adjusted and Original

↓ [Download XLSX](#)
[6.05 MB]

Table 23a. Underutilised persons by Territory and Sex - Seasonally adjusted

[↓ Download XLSX](#)
[412.22 KB]

Table 24. Underutilised persons by Age and Sex (expanded analytical series)

[↓ Download XLSX](#)
[511.13 KB]

Table 25. Underutilised persons by State, Territory and Sex (expanded analytical series)

[↓ Download XLSX](#)
[421.76 KB]

Flows into and out of employment

GM1 - Labour force status and Gross changes (flows) by Age, Sex, State and Territory, August 2005 to July 2024

[↓ Download XLSX](#)
[94.15 MB]

GM1 - Labour force status and Gross changes (flows) by Age, Sex, State and Territory, Historical (from February 1991)

[↓ Download XLSX](#)
[97.38 MB]

All time series spreadsheets

All time series spreadsheets

[↓ Download ZIP](#)
[27.11 MB]

Data Explorer datasets

Caution: Data in the Data Explorer is currently released after the 11:30am release on the ABS website. Please check the time period when using Data Explorer.

Feedback

For information on Data Explorer and how it works, see the [Data Explorer user guide \(/about/data-services/data-explorer/data-explorer-user-guide\)](#).

[Labour Force status by Sex, State and Territory \(https://explore.data.abs.gov.au/vis?](https://explore.data.abs.gov.au/vis?tm=labour%20force&pg=0&df[ds]=ABS_ABS_TOPICS&df[id]=LF&df[ag]=ABS&df[vs]=1.0.0&hc[Measure]=Labour%20Force&hc[ABS%20Topics]=LABOUR&pd=2021-01%2C&dq=M9.3.1599.30%2B10%2B20.AUS.M&ly[cl]=TIME_PERIOD&ly[rw]=TSEST)

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